

Linda Day  
Docket # 06-203  
HAC – wireless phones

December 6, 2006

Dear Commission:

In response to the request for comments regarding hearing aid compatibility of wireless cell phones I wish to make the following comments:

I commend the manufacturers who have done a tremendous job of producing models within their product lines that are in fact hearing aid compatible. When I wore hearing aids, I used a number of different brands of phones that were very compatible with the T-coil component of my aids. Now I am a cochlear implant recipient. I have found that some of the same phones I was able to use with my hearing aid are not compatible with my processor. I recently switched to a TREO phone to take advantage of the email options, but on the Cingular network I was unable to understand the caller due to a high amount of interference. I ported my cell number to Verizon and tried their TREO phone and it worked fine. I am currently using a Motorola Q phone without difficulty. It appears that the carrier technology continues to influence the success or failure of these devices regardless of the manufacturer.

That said, I urge the Commission to continue to enforce the T-coil compliance regulations for both manufacturers and service providers to ensure that their products and services are designed to be accessible to and useable by people with disabilities, including T-coil compatibility for both hearing aids and cochlear implants.

Sincerely,

Linda Day